

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06
CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NASA-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05
OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 OES-06 SS-15 USIA-06 NRC-05
/126 W

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R 171700Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6016
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
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ERDA HQ WASHDC
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PARM, CCD
SUBJECT: CCD: US STATEMENT ON RADIOLOGICAL WARFARE DURING
INFORMAL MEETING OF CCD ON NEW MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS.

REF: GENEVA 2027

1. SUMMARY: DURING FOURTH AND FINAL INFORMAL MEETING OF
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CCD ON NEW MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS (MDW), US REP MADE
BRIEF STATEMENT ON RADIOLOGICAL WARFARE (RW) IN RESPONSE
TO REMARKS AT PREVIOUS SESSION BY INDIAN REP AND REMARKS
BY GDR EXPERT. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING FOURTH INFORMAL MEETING ON MDW ON MARCH 17, GDR
EXPERT (JUNG) SAID: QUOTE FINALLY, WE KNOW THAT THERE

ARE ALSO COMPLETELY NEW KINDS OF PRINCIPLES OF ACTIONS ON THE BASIS OF WHICH WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION COULD BE DEVELOPED. ONE EXAMPLE - I WOULD LIKE TO MENTION - ARE RADIO-CHEMICAL EFFECTS RESULTING FROM THE USE OF SO-CALLED ATOMIC WASTE. COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS YEARS WHERE RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL WAS EXPENSIVE AND VERY RARE, IT IS TODAY A WASTE PRODUCT. THE PROBLEM OF ITS DISPOSAL IS STILL UNSOLVED AND UNDER INTENSIVE STUDIES. THESE STUDIES MAY LEAD EASILY TO ARMS-TECHNOLOGICAL APPLICATIONS. THE MATERIAL MAY BE GRANULATED, CERTAIN COMPONENTS MAY BE TRANSFORMED INTO AEROSOLS. THUS IT IS NO PROBLEM TO PRODUCE FORMS OF APPLICATION WHICH MAY EASILY HIT LIVING OR NONLIVING TARGETS. SEVERAL COMPONENTS, RADIONUCLIDES, MAY BE CHEMICALLY MODIFIED. IT IS POSSIBLE TO PRODUCE RADIOPHARMACA ON THEIR BASIS, WHICH, IN SOME WAY INTRODUCED INTO THE BIOCHEMISTRY OF ORGANISMS, ALSO OF HUMAN BEINGS, SPECIFICALLY REACH SINGLE TARGET ORGANS OR TARGET CELLS. BUT THE FINAL DAMAGE TO THE TARGET CONCERNED DO NOT LONGER BASE UPON A BIOCHEMICAL BUT UPON A RADIOLOGICAL EFFECT. THE MULTIPLICITY OF POSSIBILITIES OFFERED IN THIS FIELD BY TRANSURANES IS NOT YET FORESEEABLE. THE CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES OF ALL THESE EFFECTS ARE:

- (1) THE EFFECT DOES NOT OCCUR IMMEDIATELY.
- (2) THE EFFECT IS NEARLY UNCURABLE.
- (3) THE EFFECT MAY HAVE EXTREMELY VARIOUS FORMS.

ONE HAS TO BE AWARE OF PSYCHOTROPIC DISTURBANCES AS WELL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AS OF DAMAGES TO THE GONADS AND OF CONSEQUENCES FOR THE DESCENDANTS OF THE CONTAMINATED HUMAN BEING.

BY THE WAY, THE PRINCIPLE OF ACTION SHOWN HERE HAS PLAYED SINCE LONG AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN MEDICAL DIAGNOSTICS AND THERAPEUTICS. THE TECHNOLOGIES IN THIS FIELD ARE HIGHLY DEVELOPED. IT IS IMPORTANT TO STATE THAT IN THIS CASE A PHYSICAL EFFECT, FOR INSTANCE ELECTRO-MAGNETIC OR CORPUSCULAR RADIATION, ACTS TOGETHER WITH SPECIFICALLY CHEMICAL PROPERTIES, THUS PRODUCING NEW AND DANGEROUS QUALITIES OF EFFECT. END QUOTE.

3. AT PREVIOUS INFORMAL MEETING ON MDW, INDIAN REP (JAIN) ASKED WHAT USG POSITION WAS ON RW IN THE CONTEXT OF MDW. (SEE REFTEL).

4. RESPONDING TO GDR AND INDIAN REMARKS, US REP (MEYERS) MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT DURING MARCH 17 INFORMAL:

QUOTE: A NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS HAVE REFERRED TO WEAPONS INVOLVING THE USE OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS IN TERMS OF BANNING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION. IN TERMS OF DEFINITION, AS WE HAVE STATED TOGETHER WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER DELEGATIONS, THE US SUPPORTS THE 1948 UN DEFINITION ON THIS SUBJECT OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION AS APPLICABLE IN THIS CASE, WHICH I WILL QUOTE: "WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION SHOULD BE DEFINED TO INCLUDE ATOMIC EXPLOSIVE WEAPONS, RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL WEAPONS, LETHAL CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS, AND ANY WEAPONS DEVELOPED IN THE FUTURE WHICH HAVE CHARACTERISTICS COMPARABLE IN DESTRUCTIVE EFFECT TO THOSE OF THE ATMOIC BOMB OR OTHER WEAPONS MENTIONED ABOVE."

I MAY SAY HERE THAT THE US DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT IT MAY BE APPROPRIATE FOR THE CCD TO GIVE FURTHER ATTENTION TO DEALING WITH THIS SPECIFIC SUBJECT OF RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS, WHICH WE AGREE BY DEFINITION IS A WEAPON OF MASS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DESTRUCTION, AT SOME TIME CONSISTENT WITH THE PRIORITIES OF THE CCD'S WORK PROGRAM. END QUOTE. SORENSON

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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